REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 69-74, 79-82, 87-90, 95-100, 104-107, 111-114, 148 and 149 are pending in this application. Claims 1-68, 75-78, 83-86, 91-94, 101-103, 108-110, 115-147 and 150-218 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 69-71, 79, 87, 95-97, 104, 111, 148 and 149, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 69-71, 75, 79, 83, 87, and 91 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,073,122 to Wool (hereinafter, merely "Wool").

Amended independent claim 69 now recites, *inter alia*:

> "...first storing means for storing content data that is prohibited from being played by an information receiving device that does not include a content key;

second storing means for storing content data that is permitted to be played by an information receiving device that does not include the content key;" (Emphasis Added)

As understood by Applicants, Wool relates to a cryptographic method to restrict access to transmitted programming. A set-top terminal restricts access to transmitted multimedia information using stored decryption keys.

Applicants submit that nothing has been found in Wool that would disclose or suggest the above-identified features of amended independent claim 69. Specifically, Wool does not disclose or suggest, first storing means for storing content data that is prohibited from being played by an information receiving device that does not include a content key; or second storing means for storing content data that is permitted to be played by an information receiving device that does not include the content key, as recited in independent claim 69.

Therefore, claim 69 is believed to be patentable.

For reasons similar to those described above, amended independent claims 70, 71, 79, 87, and 91 are believed to be patentable.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 72-74, 76-78, 80-82, 84-86, 88-90, and 92-94 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Wool in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,887,296 to Horne. Since these claims depend upon an independent claim, discussed above, Applicants submit that these claims are allowable.

Claims 95-117 and 148-170 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,690,795 to Richards in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,887,296 to Horne and further in view of Wool.

Amended independent claim 95 now recites, *inter alia*:

> "...first storing means for storing content data that is prohibited from being played by an information receiving device that does not include a content key;
>
> second storing means for storing content data that is permitted to be played by an information receiving device that does not include the content key;" (Emphasis Added)

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 6,690,795 to Richards (hereinafter, merely "Richards") relates to transmission and encryption of digital signals using multiple decryption keys.

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Patent No. 4,887,296 to Horne (hereinafter, merely "Horne") relates to a three key cryptographic system for a direct broadcast satellite system used in the transmission of digitized signals to a plurality of receivers. Each receiver has a unique address number and a factory stored signature key which is a function of the address number.

Applicants submit that nothing has been found in Richards or Horne or Wool, taken alone or in combination, that would teach or suggest the above-identified features of independent claim 95.

Therefore, claim 95 is believed to be patentable.

Fore reasons similar, or somewhat similar, to those described above, claims 96, 97, 100, 104, 111, 148 and 149 are also believed to be patentable.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same

reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate the portion, or portions, of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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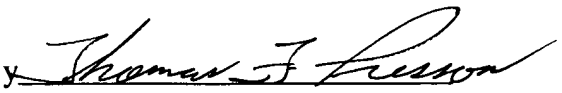
By 
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